for determination of sex of foetus at home. In 2006, a news published in Sunday Times of India, Mumbai, a website was selling home gender testing kits over the internet *vide* their site www.pregnancystore.com.

Navi Mumbai State Appropriate Authority and Delhi State Appropriate Authority filed court cases against Reliance Infocom Ltd. The case is pending in the Hon'ble High Court of Mumbai. In respect of other cases, Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology was requested to block the websites offering these communications. It was also requested to block Google Search Engine offering selection sites violating the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act (PC&PNDT).

(e) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Health and Family Welfare has been constituted to consider proposed amendments to PC&PNDT Act to strengthen its implementation and related issues. The National Support and Monitoring Cell (NSMC) constituted to focus on the vulnerable States of Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Chandigarh and Delhi for strict implementation of the Act is being strengthened by appointment of one full time lawyer and an adminsitrative leader for the cell. National Inspection and Monitoring Committee (NIMC) has been expanded with incorporation of members from Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Law, National Commission for Women, Central Supervisory Board Members and NGOs to undertake more frequent visits to the States for overseeing the implementation of the Act and to conduct on the spot inspection of the ultrasound centres.

Malaria and TB deaths in the country

2821. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of deaths from T.B. and Malaria are reported in the country every year;

(b) the steps being taken by Government for the prevention from these diseases; and

(c) the amount spent by Government for the purpose every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIAMTI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The number of deaths

report from TB and Malaria during the last three years are reported as under:-

Year	TB Deaths	Malaria Deaths
2004	37639	949
2005	53323	963
2006	Awaited	14082*

*Provisional

(b) To control TB, the Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) based on WHO recommended Directly observed Treatment Short-course strategy, widely known as DOTS was implemented in the country in a phased manner from 1997 and the entire country had ben covered by March 2006. The objective of the programme was to achieve and maintain a cure rate of 85% amongst new sputum positive cases and to detect and maintain a case detection rate of at least 70 amongst such cases.

Under Revised National TB Control Programme, diagnosis is made by quality assured sputum curing infectious cases on priority. Facilities for diagnosis by sputum microscopy have been decentralized and strengthened. Drugs are provided under observation of a DOTS provider and patients are monitored so that they complete their treatment. Drugs are provided free of cost inpatient-wise boxes. Till date, the Revised National TB Control Programme has placed more than 69.30 lakh patients on DOTS treatment averting more than 12.40 lakh deaths. Every month more than 1.2 lakh patients are placed on DOTS. In 2006 alone, India palced more than 13.97 lakhs cases on DOTS, more than any country in a single year in the world. Overall performance of Revised National TB Control Programme has been excellent with cure/treatment completion rate consistently above 85% and death rate reduced to less than 5%. To increase accessibility of the masses to the facilities provided under the Programme, special emphasis is laid on the IEC activities, involvement of NGOs, private sector and medical colleges in the revised strategy.

To control malaria, a comprehensive National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) is being implemented in the entire country for prevention and control of Malaria and other vector borne disease namely Filaria, Kala-Azar, Japanese Encephalitis (JE) Dengue and Chikangunya.

The programme is implemented by the States through the existing primary health care system.

Following three pronged strategies are implemented for control of Vector Borne Diseases including malaria.

(i) **Disease Management** including early case detection and complete treatment strengthening of referral services, epidemic preparedness and rapid response.

(ii) **Integrated Vector Management (For Transmission Risk Reduction)** Including Indoor Residual Spraying in selected high risk areas, use of insecticide treated bed nets, use of Larvivorus fish, anti larval measures in urban areas including bio-larvicides and minor environmental engineering

(iii) **Supportive Interventions** including Behaviour Change Communication, Public Private Partnership and Inter sectoral convergence, Human Resource Development through capacity building, operational research including studies on drug resistance and insecticide susceptibility, Monitoring and evaluation through periodic reviews/field visits and web based Management Information System.

(c) the detail of fund allocation and amount spent under the Revised Natinal TB Control Programme and National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme dueing the last three years are as under:

Revised National TB Control Programme (Rs. in crores)

Year	Expenditure
2004-05	133.63
2005-06	187.70
2006-07	220.97

Naional Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (Rs. In crores)

Year	Expenditure
2004-05	216.66
2005-06	260.43
2006-07	317.47